

# MORE WOMEN AND CHILDREN LEARNING TO SWIM

That Is One Result of the Slocum Disaster--The New Method of Teaching

POSITIONS IN THE WATER

LAND MOVEMENTS

A woman's leading characteristics are apt to show up plainly when she is learning to swim. In this respect swimming resembles card playing.

There is the woman who, the instant her feet leave terra firma, seizes her teacher in a drowning grasp, paying no heed to his repeated assurances that he can and will keep her head above water. Another type is the know-it-all woman who, as she wades in for her first lesson, remarks blithely to the teacher:

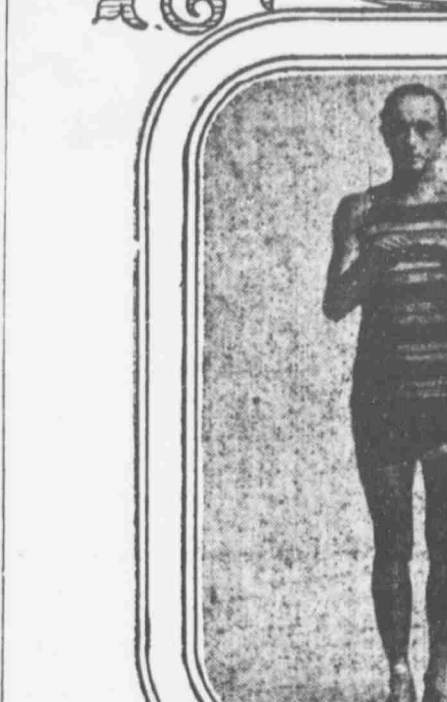
"You need not touch me. I am sure I know the trick of keeping my head out of water without help." The next instant, choking and struggling, she abandons the attempt to learn swimming in a rage because the instructor took her at her word. Instructors, by the way, generally do take beginners at their word. It is the quickest way known, they say, to bring the know-it-alls to terms.

There is also the woman so constitutionally timid that lesson is piled upon lesson before she is able or willing to try an independent stroke. Her teacher may not leave her side once for the fraction of a second and she is inclined to lay her inability to learn at his door. In confidence she tells her friends that she doesn't think much of him as a teacher.

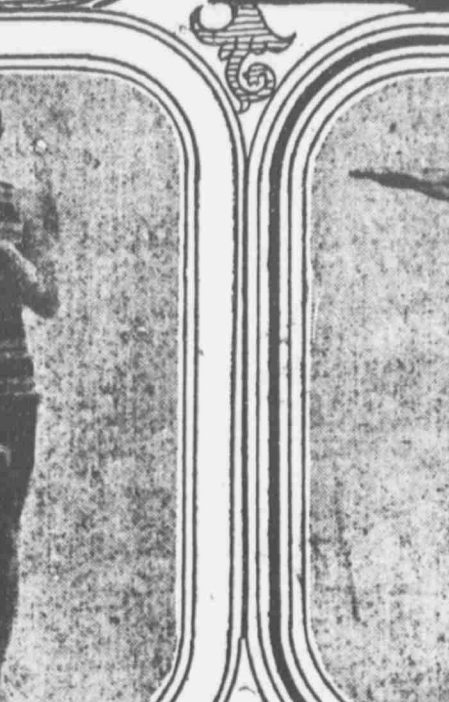
Then, few and far between, are the modestly self-reliant women, willing to take advice and to do the same thing over and over again, in the face of repeated failures. It is women of this type who are the solace of every swimming teacher and the most likely to come out of the swimming school knowing a trifle about swimming.

Strange to say, though, the woman apparently willing and determined to follow her teacher's commands is in the minority among the tremendously large number of women--women of leisure, business and professional women, who are now going to swimming as they once used to go to golf. That golf is an old story is perhaps the reason, whereas the woman who can float, swim, dive from the end of a pier or a row-boat is still regarded as something of a prodigy.

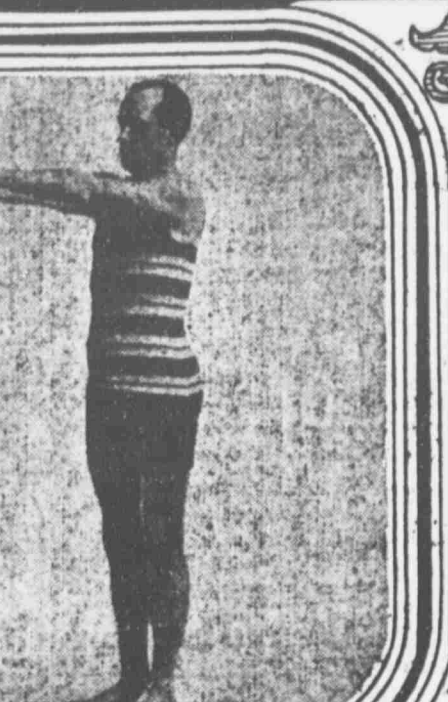
One reason given for the unusually large number of recruits to swimming schools of late is the Slocum disaster of last summer. Since that time, thousands of persons who never gave the matter a moment's thought before have determined that it would be a good thing to know at least the trick of keeping one's head above water in case of an unexpected spill far from land.



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and most spills are unexpected. Mothers who once warned their small children away from the water are now sending them to be taught swimming, and they themselves are taking lessons.

There are all sorts of ways to learn to swim, but as a rule the average city woman prefers to make her debut in an indoor, fresh water swimming tank, and some women, particularly the very timid, prefer at the start the trolley method, which sustains a pupil in the water without the near presence of an instructor.

Proprietors of swimming schools differ as to the relative value of the trolley and the old-fashioned way of teaching. For instance, in Manhattan, where a swimming trolley is hard to find, teachers are inclined to frown upon the method, declaring that it is wiser for a beginner to have an instructor at her side, even in a tank, upon whom alone to depend.

In Brooklyn, on the other hand, where a

trolley has for nearly a year been included in the equipment of the largest swimming tank there, it is declared that women pupils without exception absolutely refuse to try any other method at the start.

"This trolley," said one teacher, "is away past the experimental stage. It has come to stay."

"There is a little woman taking a lesson now who never in the world, she told me, could have got up her courage to learn to swim but for that trolley. Go in and take a look at her."

The little woman referred to, clad in a bathing suit of pale gray brilliantine trimmed with red, was standing at the end of a tank forty feet long, while her teacher fastened around her a harness made of stout leather straps which passed around her waist and under her arms.

High above the tank from end to end ran a stout wire, and along this slid a trolley from which dangled a couple of ropes. On

the end of one rope was a big hook which was slid by the teacher into a steel loop in the center of the back of the pupil's harness. The other rope he held fast.

During the lesson he gave minute directions about how to use both arms with equal facility in swimming, but he never once entered the water and the pupil seemed to need no other aid.

When her feet left the bottom of the tank she was suspended securely from the trolley at exactly the level for correct swimming and to prevent her from swallowing water. Relieved of course from fear of going to the bottom, the swimmer struck out in obedience to directions, which sent the trolley spinning at a lively gait along the steel wire.

"Isn't it jolly?" the young woman exclaimed at the turn, tucking back a lock of hair out of her eyes. "I am not the least bit afraid, and I am learning the strokes splendidly."

"Oh, no! I could never get up my courage to get off my feet were it not for this trolley."

"Only beginners," explained the teacher, "are allowed to use the trolley. After three or four or five lessons--the number depends on the cleverness of the pupil--they must strike out and keep afloat without it."

"Of course they would never learn self-reliance if they always had a machine to hold them up. But while practicing the correct arm and leg movements the trolley is invaluable and saves practicing them first on land, which many pupils are obliged to do when learning by the old system."

"After one more lesson by trolley this pupil will have to get along without it," and the pupil heard and shook her head regretfully.

"In my judgment," the teacher went on, "twenty minutes, no longer, is the proper time for a lesson, and quite long enough for any one to stay in still water heated to a

temperature of 78 degrees, which is the required degree for inside work."

"Some pupils learn to swim fairly well in eight lessons, others take twelve lessons, some even more."

"The first, second and third arm movements are easy enough. It is when the combined arm and leg movements begin that progress is slower. Any one, however, really in earnest about learning to swim may often work wonders by practicing the proper movements slowly and carefully and over and over again at home before going to a swimming pool."

"After these movements are learned it is confidence and self-reliance more than anything else which makes a good swimmer. Women are naturally more timid in the water than men, but of the thousands of pupils we taught last season there was only one woman who could not learn to swim."

"She tried to learn to please her husband,

but it was no use. She had a bad case of nerves and excessive fear of the water combined."

"Almost any one can learn to swim, and in my opinion every one ought to learn the simpler points, anyway. Fancy swimming and long distance feats are just as well left to men, I think."

"A woman should always swim slowly and deliberately, and learn, above all things, to float on her back, which is the easiest position of all. It is a lot easier to swim in salt water than in a fresh water tank; therefore pupils who learn indoors improve tremendously just as soon as they get into salt water."

"For the reason our rule here, when the season is far enough advanced to make it practicable, is to take adult pupils who have learned to swim fairly well in batches of twenty-five, with four instructors, to the seashore and give them a practice swim to a float some distance from the shore and back."

"We are teaching more youngsters than usual just now, one little girl of 8 and a boy of 6 being among the most proficient. The little girl cut up awfully at the first lesson, and only because her mother was determined she should learn and begged me to continue the lessons did I consent to go on."

"No, since we have used the trolley I do not go into the tank at all. Even after the lessons out the trolley out of practice I issue all my directions from the edge of the tank, ready of course to drop in at a second's notice if necessary. But it never is necessary, and most women I find prefer not to have an instructor in the tank with them and like the new method of teaching swimming better than the old."

"Time is up," guiding as he spoke the swimmer in the tank toward the steps.

"Really?" was the answer. "Why, I don't believe I have been here more than ten minutes. It doesn't seem any longer anyway. For the reason, I suppose, that I was not the least bit scared and am not at all tired."

"One of the newer movements I am teaching to women is called the 'crawl stroke,' said a Manhattan instructor. It is a hand over hand movement not unlike that made by a fish in crawling, and it takes one through the water easily and at good speed."

"By the way," he added, "I tell all my pupils who are ambitious to learn to swim in a hurry to make the crawl stroke as brilliant as possible, which is not so heavy as flannel nor such an impediment to free movement as silk."

## Marriage As It May Be in the Future

Will Woman Wed to Get a Good Cook and Have Her Children Brought Up by Specialists While She Devotes Herself to Making Money?

A favorite topic of late with lecturers at women's club meetings has been the relative position of men and women in business life and their wage earning capacity. The grandmothers of these lecturers never thought of brooding such topics at sewing bees and quilting parties, for the reason that the old-fashioned woman was not conspicuous in the business world. When, for instance, B. F. Hamilton of Saco, Me., in 1854, hired two women clerks to wait on the customers in his dry goods store the town almost threw fits. For a time the store, the proprietor and the clerks were boycotted.

In that not very distant day women clerks in stores were practically unknown, and the community evidently resented their introduction--at least the community of Maine did. To-day the woman clerk abounds in almost every State of the union and the country is entirely commonplace.

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National Suffrage Association, in commenting on this story remarked that it was significant of the change in industrial conditions as relating to men and women in the last half century and of the changes which might take place in the next fifty years.

Mrs. Catt, by the way, was quoted in print the other day as declaring, before a meeting of Jersey City clubwomen, that man was being crowded out by woman. When confronted with this report she said she didn't mean to convey exactly that idea.

"Possibly," said she, "the reported statement was the outcome of a story I told that day. Here is the story:

"I was dining one day at the house of the president of a well known college. Several of his professors were among the guests. The dinner was so good that I could not help congratulating my host on the possession of so good a cook, whereupon he said:

"I have had a man cook for a number of years and he is a treasure." He added: "The lady who just left the table is his wife. She is professor of Greek in the college."

"I meant this story to illustrate, as it does, I think, the fact that if woman is invading certain avenues of employment formerly occupied solely by men, man, on the other hand, has taken away from woman many of the occupations once considered peculiarly her own."

"Man has taken occupations out of the home and put them into factories, and work in the home is becoming more and more specialized. In the old days women made not only the clothes they and their husbands and children wore, but some of the best fabrics represented in the clothes. In these days, on the other hand, even bread, cake, pickles and pies are bought outside of the home."

"The very pleasures of the old time woman offered merely more chances to work. When she went visiting she took her knitting or her sewing along; when visitors dropped in upon her she never dreamed of entertaining them while her hands remained idle. Hunking bees and quilting societies also meant more work for the hands."

reason: The old-fashioned woman was economically independent. I don't mean in actual money, for often there was little ready cash in the family treasury for any one to handle. In the days when there were small farms up around Fifty-ninth street, Manhattan, farm products were often exchanged for other household commodities, such as dollars and cents.

"Although the modern woman was not legally independent, she was economically independent. She was self-supporting, or felt that she was, knowing that she worked just as hard from morning till night, often harder, than her husband did."

"Now things are different. A married woman may fill up her time, may keep busy with cards and clubs and charities and by taking a few more furberelous and frills to her bonnets and gowns, but really she represents a loss to the community."

"On account of the specialization of work and taking certain industries out of the home into the factory, it would seem that by a natural order of evolution the only way left for married women to achieve economic independence is to seek it in paid fields of work."

"How about the woman who has children?" Mrs. Catt was asked.

"Well, having children might lessen her feeling of dependence, but even so it is a question whether children would not be better off if brought up by specialists. It is believed that not one woman in 100,000 ever gives her children the proper way of bringing up children."

"Most mothers go entirely by instinct rather than by knowledge. Eventually it must come about that children will be brought up by specialists, in which case the mother's hands would be free."

"You think that one woman in fifty years will be economically independent?"

"Every married woman I think has this yearning, but as yet the proportion who yearn for it is very small. Yes, that is one of woman's little income tendencies; and I have known some men who were affected in the same way."

"Labor statistics show that in less than twenty years the number of self-supporting women has increased from 18 to 20 per cent, or out of all proportion to the growth of the population; and although just what percent of this gain represents married women is not definitely stated, it is known to be large."

"This is significant and proves, I think, that although the big question of the married woman's economic independence will not be settled until she has a fair share in being encouraged rather than hindered by marriage."

"Marriage, it is hinted, is going out of fashion and in certain sections of the country it is undoubtedly true that women who can bring up their children on their own are being encouraged rather than hindered by marriage."

"I remember the case of a young woman who a good many years ago held a Government office in Washington at a yearly salary of \$1,800. In the same department was a young man who got only \$1,400."

"The two fell in love and wanted to marry, which meant that one or the other had to give up his or her office as the rules of the service I believe, forbid that husband and wife should be employed at the same time in the same department."

"By using influence, the young woman managed to have her fiancé put into her place, which she resigned, and the pair married and lived on the income which once had been hers alone, and which the man never increased."

"A good many years later he died; and his widow, unimpaired, and with a small estate, continued to live on the income which once had been hers alone, and which the man never increased."

get back her old job, was up against the problem of beginning at the foot of the ladder, when past middle life, to support herself. It is such cases as this which scare off some women from marrying and incite so many others to fit themselves for economic independence.

"I was interested to learn from the statistics of the National Commissioner of Education that in the three years from 1889 to 1902 the increase in the number of college women was 158.1 per cent, as against an increase of 60 per cent of men."

"Assuming that marriage is on the decline or has been for the last decade or so, nature is going to resent this unnatural order of things sooner or later and eventually there will be conditions under which women may marry and yet maintain their economic independence."

"Meanwhile do you not think it is true that woman is crowding man out of the money-making occupations?"

"On the whole, no. Some women may have driven some men out of some occupations, but every time a woman gets work she does not mean that necessarily some man is pushed out of that place."

"For instance, the proportion of school teachers and principals in the public schools is double what it used to be and many persons believe that the women do the better work. Then, too, in the majority

of the low priced occupations where employees are recruited from the lower social ranks women greatly predominate."

"But look at the other side of the question."

"The most famous dreamers and milliners in the world are men. Everybody who can afford it employs, preferably, a man cook and displaces a waitress to make a man butler. In the hotels and higher grade boarding houses only men waiters are wanted."

"Then the many recent inventions have increased tremendously the number of bread winning occupations open to men. More than 1,000,000 men, I am told, are employed by electrical concerns alone."

"Therefore, if woman drives man by her cheaper labor out of certain occupations, it is only because there are other occupations which he alone can take up, and in the case of the higher occupations and the professions it would seem to be a question of the survival of the fittest."

"It must be admitted that woman is fast catching up with man in her ability as a wage earner and that the transitional process through which she has been passing from an unpaid laborer to one who must be reckoned with on something like an equal money basis shows plainly that she has made and will continue to make a steady effort in the direction of economic inde-

pendence."

"Does this upward movement not indicate that in time woman will surpass man in many lines of work?"

"I would hardly say that. It certainly does mean, though, an upsetting of old-fashioned ideas as to what constitutes a woman's work and, perhaps, a different adjustment of the work of some men and some women, both married and single."

"If the present ratio of the increase in college women keeps on indefinitely is it not going to be difficult for a large percentage of women to find congenial mates? Will not the teacher of Greek be obliged to marry a chef or a man milliner if she would enjoy wedded bliss?"

"Now, for mercy's sake, don't ask me to solve any matrimonial riddles," said Mrs. Catt, with a despairing wave of the hand. "I am not a matrimonial prophet."

"There is no telling what may happen. In ten days highly educated and quite distinguished men thought they had a treasure when they secured a wife who knew how to cook well, to get up a fine dinner unaided, and apparently they were perfectly contented with the partnership. At any rate, they seldom sought a divorce."

"So, when I move that the coming woman of high mental attainments will be equally delighted to secure an accomplished chef for a husband?"

## THE LATECOMER, A CONCERT TRAGEDY

She has a chair in the middle of row O, and every one has taken pains to get there before her.

She works her velvet skirt securely away from its moorings at the place where things come together in the back, and catches her opera glass, her lorgnette, her purse, her box, her muff against the waistcoat buttons of the lady and upright men, and on the eyeglasses, hats, fans, laces and programs of pressed back, half sitting, indignant women.

The symphony has begun and the dimming of the lights is over. All the audience goes well on. All the audience goes well on. All the audience goes well on.

It was a shabby thing of the man in the seat next to hers to leave his London umbrella leaning like a half-shut drawbridge from his seat. He does not like to have it snapped in twain by the onslaught of the lady. It makes a noise, and she tumbles helplessly into her seat, wondering if ever again she can twist herself into a comfortable position and be sure of the whereabouts of the different portions of her attire.

There is a deficiency in her proportions. Her legs were not made to fit the seat of the orchestra chair. To be exact, they do not reach the floor. She has noticed this deficiency before, but now it is accentuated by the sidelong twist she has given her velvet skirt.

The gentleman immediately behind takes this time to lean forward and inquire if she will kindly remove her hat.

She raises her velvet arms obediently to still-hunt for her hatpins, and down goes her opera glass with a bang, followed by her muff and pocket handkerchief. The gentleman on her right knows he ought to pick them up, but he remembers his broken umbrella and looks the other way with a snarl.

The man on her left makes a dive and spends some moments fumbling about under the seats with his neatly gloved fingers. She thanks him in a hushed whisper as he emerges and deposits the erring articles in her lap.

The gentleman behind is getting restless because he cannot see the gyrations of the conductor and the faces that the hat-pin players make, and says things to the lady with him, but she does not hear them.

There are five of them in braided gridiron through her powdered hair. And yet the newspapers are full of letters from indignant man, inquiring why woman does not remove her headgear in public places!

She pulls out one and puts it in her mouth. It is a deadly menace to the life and safety of all around. The man on her right shudders and imaginary remnants of his umbrella pierce his soul.

This is but a beginning. She pulls out a second, a third, a fourth, a fifth, and sticks them in her belt. She gives her hat a preliminary shake to see if it is loosening from its moorings.

The Pyramids themselves are not more firmly embedded. There must be another pin.

But where? The people around to a radius of three seats deep are becoming interested. She blushes to a crimson hue and tries to screen herself behind the tail woman in front.

Several more things slide down her lap and find a noisy resting place upon the floor. Nobody picks them up. The hat couples the center of the stage. The lightning of attention is focused upon it.

She feels cautiously about underneath the flowers and at the roots of the feathers. No pin. She gives a yank to her hat, thereby unsettling the foundations of her hair. Hat and hair are still inseparably united.

Where is that lurking will o' the wisp, the knob of the last hatpin? She plunges wildly among puffs and frills, tearing lace and ripping velvet. Her shining, well-groomed tresses tremble at the onslaught. The hat retains them in its crablike grip.

The program goes on with undisturbed serenity, but what is that to her? It is easier to play trombone or kettledrums than kindly to remove her hat.

She notes the baldheaded man in the seat next to hers resting his polished pate upon a thoughtful hand, and a feeling of unchristian envy gnaws within her. His hat comes off and on at will.

The gentleman behind is getting restless because he cannot see the gyrations of the conductor and the faces that the hat-pin players make, and says things to the lady with him, but she does not hear them.

And Psyche knot at the nape of her neck are lessons to her sisters. Her hat was fastened by a rubber band and lies quietly in her lap. It is a vague construction, with uncertain outlines, and was probably of English origin.

But wait. The structure is yielding. The fervor of contest is renewed. The daylight of triumph looms.

Suddenly, unexpectedly, the irresponsible source of trouble, the elusive hatpin, gives a leap into the air and lands in the back of the lady in front. She, quivering with agony, gives a muffled shriek and turns and glares at her unwitting antagonist.

The gentleman whose umbrella was broken sympathetically plucks the weapon out and returns it to the owner, with a steady stare of disapproval. She tries to murmur apologies to the victim, whose companion rubs her between the shoulders and coldly ignores all proffers of assistance. General attention is again focused on the lady, this time with marked disapprobation.

But calm has come. The hat is off, and makes another object to be guarded in her limited lap.

Her hair is in wild confusion. Somebody hands her a program and she tries to get her bearings. In vain. A mist is before her eyes and her spirit has been quelled.

The program is inscribed within a small space, and advertisements of hair oil, confectionery, soaps, theaters, photographers and kindred matter, loom large before her uncertain vision.

She gives it up and sits meekly through large, achoso and presto--looking forward to the end, the time when the dilapidated hat will again have to be welded on and her scattered belongings groped for in the stillness of the forsaken hall.

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## Humble Cents That Collectors Prize

Some of Them Valued at Hundreds of Dollars--Among the Most Interesting Coins to Collect--More Than 800 Government Designs.

The fact that a Granby cent brought \$75 at an auction sale of old coins in this city the other day may cause surprise to some persons, and yet declares say the Granby cent is by no means either the rarest or the most costly coin of that denomination which has been in circulation in the United States. There are other cents which have fetched sums ranging from \$100 to \$700.

Although it might seem that a collection of old copper cents, which in many cases are worn quite smooth, would be a simple and inexpensive matter, still it may entail a greater outlay than the gathering of coins of any other kind, not even excepting the series of dollars, including the famous 1804 dollar. Copper cents have a peculiar attraction for collectors. Beautiful as gold and silver coins may be, their collectors are less numerous than those of the homely copper cent.

Copper cents are of comparatively recent date when one compares them with the Great Cent, and yet a complete collection of coins of this denomination used in America will take up a collector's entire time if he goes in for it thoroughly.

The favor shown to the cent is probably due to its numerous varieties, and also to the fact that these cents illustrate the most interesting period of our country's history--immediately before and after the Revolutionary war.

First come the John Higley cents. These were made by John Higley at Granby, Conn., in 1787, of copper taken from mines in that State. There are four varieties of these cents, each of which is extremely valuable. Some are worth \$100 or more each.

The scarcity of these cents is due to the fact that though originally minted in great numbers, they were made of the purest copper, and the jewelers of that period, and indeed for years afterward, used them in their alloys. Then many of the coins were soon worn so smooth that the design entirely disappeared.

There are more than a thousand different varieties of Colonial cents. Some of them bring from \$25 to \$300, which latter sum was paid not long ago at an auction sale for a cent issued in New York in 1787.

Many of the States forming the Confederation availed themselves of the right given them by Congress to issue copper cents, the most active in this respect being Connecticut, which alone coined more than 200 varieties. Then came New Jersey, with a great number of varieties; Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York and Virginia. Most of these State issues now bring premiums which dwarf the prices brought by coins of national mintage.

A good many of the earlier issues were made before the Mint opened in 1793 and are unauthorized, being coined by private individuals in England and France. Some of the designs on these coins were adopted entirely by the Mint designers.

The Washington cent of 1793, for example, was made in France, the die maker not even being well enough acquainted with the English language to spell "United" correctly. It appears "Unity" on the coin.

On the reverse was a wreath. In the center of which were the words "One Cent," at the lower part of the rim being "1-100." Now a facsimile of this reverse was placed on the first United States Mint cent of 1793, and the resemblance is so close that it is difficult to detect the difference.

It is thus easy to see that only the wealthy collector is really in a position to indulge the desire to collect copper cents, and even he will find a stumbling block to a complete set in the scarcity of certain issues, like one New Jersey cent, for instance, of which there is only one in existence.

The inexperienced collector, who thinks the Washington cent to be of regular issue, yet it was merely a private speculation. Another example is the Washington cent of 1791.

This bears on one side a spread eagle of a style that has never since been used on nearly all United States coins, more especially the later designs of twenty dollar gold pieces. Above the eagle were the words "E Pluribus Unum" on the reverse, which was reproduced on the famous 1804 silver dollar. This cent was also the work of a private coiner, having been made in Birmingham, England.

The costliest coin of the series of cents is the 1793 cent minted about 1788 which is known as the "E Pluribus Unum" on the reverse, which was sold for \$640.

One of the New York cents brings \$200. In fact, a complete set of the New York State Colonial issues would cost in the neighborhood of \$1,000.

The coins of the other Colonial States are much more common, but most of them fetch prices ranging from \$10 to \$100. After having finished a set of the Colonial cents, the collector will find that he has a great deal more to do. This Government altogether has coined 817 distinct varieties of the copper cent, and this, too, notwithstanding that the Mint has been in operation only 112 years, and also despite the fact that during the past forty years there has been no change in the designs of coins of this denomination.

In the year 1793 alone the Mint produced fifty-six varieties of the big copper cent. Now nearly every one of these is very valuable, many of them commanding high premiums.